

Amendment to IMPELLER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME
Reuel S. Orocio, inventor
Serial No. 10/047,865
Filed January 15, 2002
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In the Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing
a pump impeller comprising:

forming in a single molding operation a shroud, vanes
and shaft sleeve so as to precisely obtain alignment of an axis of
rotation of said sleeve with a longitudinal center axis of an
annular inlet ring mounted on said shroud where said annular inlet
ring and said sleeve are on opposite sides of said shroud and
protrude in opposite directions from said shroud, whereby during
rotation of said impeller smooth, efficient substantially noise-
free operation is obtained because said sleeve is in balance with
said annular inlet ring.

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Claim 2. (currently amended) A pump impeller comprising:
a series of vanes having an outer end which is integrally mounted on a shroud, said shroud having a centrally located annular inlet ring which provides an inlet to an eye of said impeller, said annular inlet ring protruding outwardly in a first direction from said shroud; and

a hub integrally connected to an inner end of said vanes, said hub having a an integral sleeve connected thereto, said sleeve protruding outwardly from said shroud in a second direction, said second direction being opposite said first direction, said sleeve having an axis of rotation, said inlet having a longitudinal center axis, said axis of rotation being aligned with said longitudinal center axis, whereby rotation of said impeller produces essentially no vibration with said impeller rotating smoothly, efficiently and substantially noise-free.

Claims 3-6 (canceled)